



STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES M. PALMER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 1008

DATE: May 17, 2011

TO: Iowa Medicaid Nursing Facilities and Hospital Providers

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Level II

This Informational Letter is to inform you of issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a vendor to conduct the PASRR Level II individual evaluations and determinations as set forth in Federal Regulations (42 CFR § 483.100 through 138). The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has been enhancing its enforcement activities relating to PASRR. The current PASRR process in Iowa is not fully compliant and DHS has agreed to the implementation of a fully compliant PASRR process effective July 1, 2011.

The intent of the PASRR is to ensure that individuals with intellectual disabilities or mental illness are appropriately screened, thoroughly evaluated, placed in nursing facilities when appropriate and if placed in a nursing facility, are receiving all necessary services to meet their needs. The regulations noted above describe the requirements for PASRR and include provisions that the PASRR screenings, evaluations and determinations must be completed prior to admission to a nursing facility.

Effective July 1, 2011, nursing facilities will no longer be responsible for conducting the PASRR Level II individual evaluations and determinations as this practice is specifically prohibited in the federal regulations 42 CFR § 483.106 (e) iii. The vendor selected as a result of this RFP will assume this function.

Additionally, the regulations 42 CFR § 483.122 (a) and (b) specifically does not allow for payment for nursing facility services prior to the completion of the PASRR screenings which includes individual evaluation and determination. Payment cannot be made retroactive for nursing facility services prior to completion of the review. As a result, when a patient is being discharged from a hospital to a nursing facility and the Level I screening has indicated a possible intellectual disability or mental illness, the hospital discharge planner must initiate a PASRR Level II screening at least 48 hours prior to the anticipated time of discharge.

The RFP and related documents may be found at:

http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/index.php?pgname=viewrfp&rfp_id=5945.

Additional information will be forthcoming to address procedural changes necessary to integrate the new process and training opportunities will be announced prior to the effective date.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally at 515-256-4609, or by e-mail at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.